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Preliminary Examination for allocating subclass

Southampton, PA 18966-4545

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**Preliminary Amendment substituting pending claims for original claims**

Please cancel what were original claims 3,4,and 5 [identified as 1-3[ and substitute the apparatus claims as sought in the CPA application, being now numbered 4-6 instead of the numbers 21-23 in the CPA application.

4. A monitoring device useful in seeking to retrieve a lost item, said lost item having surface components selectively responsive to a laser beam having an explicit wave length selected from the atmospheric penetrating group consisting of 880 nm., 1310 nm., and 1550 nm., said monitoring device comprising

a source of electric power;

means actuated by said electrical power for generating a laser beam having a wavelength corresponding to said components selectively responsive to such laser beam; receptor cells responsive to the feedback light from said laser beam; amplifier means amplifying the electrical signal generated by said feedback; and

indicating means alerting a searcher to the varying intensity of such feedback when the laser beam scans a search zone possibly containing such temporarily lost item.

5. The monitoring means of claim 4 in which the indicating means features an audio signal.

6. The monitoring means of claim 4 in which the laser beam has a wavelength of 1310 nm.